September 4, 1959

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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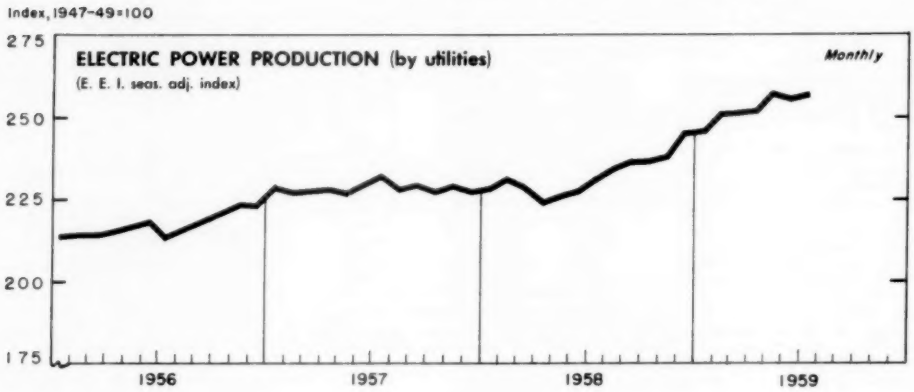
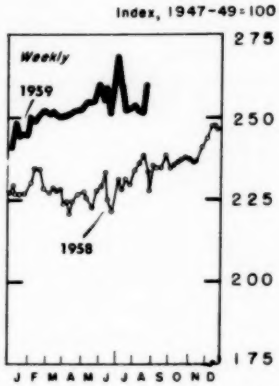
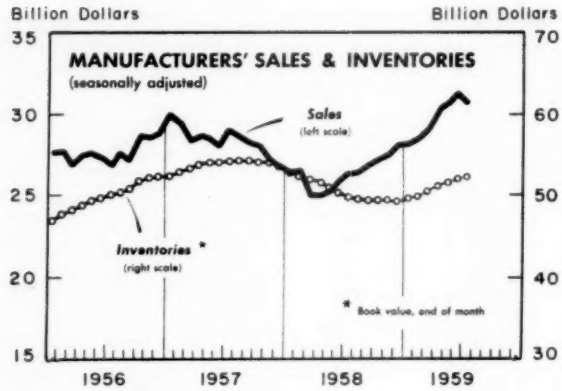
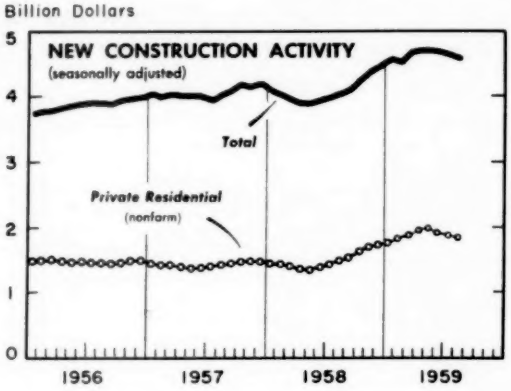
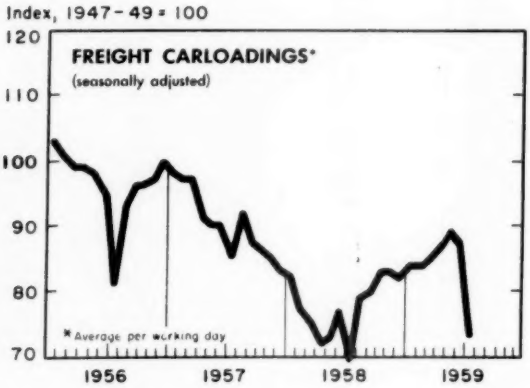
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

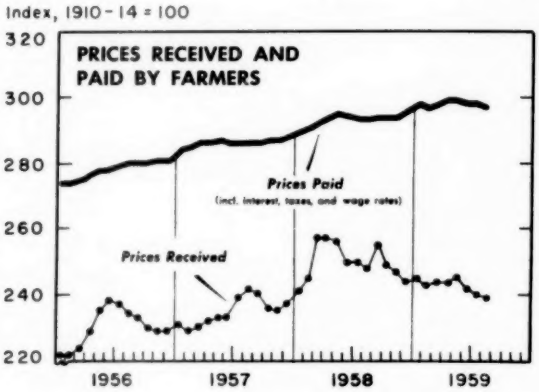












WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1958		1959			
	Aug. 23	Aug. 30	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22	Aug. 29
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*119.1	.....	119.2	119.3	119.2
Farm products.....do....	.....	*93.2	.....	87.2	87.9	87.1
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*111.3	.....	106.1	106.8	107.0
All other.....do....	.....	*126.1	.....	128.4	128.3	128.3
22 commodities 2/.....do....	86.5	86.2	86.8	86.3	86.5	87.0
Department store sales.....do....	134	149	131	132	132	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/.....thous..	2,353	2,253	1,459	1,459	.....	.....
State programs (incl. Alaska and Hawaii).....do....	2,153	2,058	1,301	1,301	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	272	246	274	269	263	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	31,295	31,249	31,925	32,071	32,051	31,951
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	26,665	26,417	28,399	28,473	28,562	28,485
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do....	18,648	18,526	18,696	18,622	18,509	18,586
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do....	621	573	428	535	438	462
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities:5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	59,438	.....	61,218	61,047	60,020	.....
Time deposits, except interbank.....do....	30,241	.....	30,759	30,747	30,718	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	.....	.....	103,737	103,398	104,025	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	35,942	.....	29,646	29,196	29,448	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....do....	.....	.....	28,688	28,759	28,910	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	10,827	.....	12,264	12,302	12,324	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	4.20	4.25	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.73
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 5/...1941-43=10..	47.32	47.91	60.30	59.25	58.27	59.08
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	50.59	51.25	64.85	63.55	62.45	63.34
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,371	1,375	1,134	1,204	1,183	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,486	12,272	13,675	13,648	14,003	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....number..	34,816	26,222	119,453	83,862	46,772	32,950
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	6,875	6,863	6,789	6,823	6,817	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	1,690	1,715	318	335	321	332
Percent of capacity.....	#62.6	#63.5	11.2	11.8	11.3	11.7
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	634	645	532	544	543	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	309	317	282	291	291	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Includes data for Alaska and Hawaii, and for the following programs: State; R.R.; Federal employees; veterans; and ex-servicemen. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data. Figures for member banks are on revised basis; leaders indicate data not available. 6/ Week beginning August 31, 1959: Production, 345 thous. short tons; operating rate, 12.2 percent. * Monthly index for August 1958. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1958		1959			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Manufacturers' sales:						
Value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	26,122	24,845	30,885	30,673	r31,993	29,161
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,584	11,317	15,810	15,727	r16,653	14,212
Primary metal.....do....	2,052	1,632	2,947	3,011	r3,259	1,810
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,452	1,433	1,735	1,718	r1,827	1,776
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,967	3,455	4,610	4,515	r4,808	4,298
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,637	2,436	3,637	3,565	r3,674	3,465
Lumber and furniture.....do....	803	757	989	995	r1,050	979
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	677	662	771	789	r829	799
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,538	13,528	15,075	14,946	r15,340	14,949
Food and beverage.....do....	4,441	4,414	4,378	4,598	r4,679	4,655
Tobacco.....do....	401	410	399	407	r451	425
Textile.....do....	1,006	936	1,217	1,199	r1,260	1,152
Paper.....do....	921	871	1,044	1,026	r1,052	967
Chemical.....do....	1,949	1,865	2,247	2,185	r2,180	2,030
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,628	2,750	2,988	2,934	r3,033	3,108
Rubber.....do....	467	473	554	524	r546	511
Value (adjusted), total.....do....	25,747	26,284	30,266	30,742	r31,248	30,748
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,086	12,256	15,166	15,515	r15,771	15,363
Primary metal.....do....	1,854	1,917	2,792	2,858	r2,916	2,126
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,397	1,454	1,684	1,711	r1,758	1,803
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,780	3,808	4,423	4,507	r4,565	4,721
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,610	2,550	3,385	3,463	r3,558	3,656
Lumber and furniture.....do....	822	836	995	1,041	r1,035	1,065
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	645	676	756	766	r768	824
Nondurable-goods industies, total 1/.....do....	13,661	14,028	15,100	15,227	r15,477	15,385
Food and beverage.....do....	4,357	4,371	4,507	4,617	r4,614	4,588
Tobacco.....do....	382	390	411	388	r414	390
Textile.....do....	1,025	1,061	1,253	1,310	r1,281	1,293
Paper.....do....	903	937	1,034	1,026	r1,042	1,040
Chemical.....do....	1,899	1,979	2,090	2,089	r2,125	2,156
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,682	2,806	3,080	2,994	r3,095	3,108
Rubber.....do....	445	478	543	524	r520	516

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown.

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ITEM	1958		1959			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Manufacturers' inventories, end of month:						
Book value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	50,278	49,357	51,053	51,545	r51,990	51,760
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	28,698	28,116	29,510	29,905	r30,217	30,053
Primary metal.....do....	3,999	4,050	4,183	4,175	r4,013	4,016
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,987	2,898	3,270	3,376	r3,500	3,465
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	9,542	9,290	9,434	9,627	r9,801	9,822
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	6,579	6,384	7,034	7,078	r7,220	7,082
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,807	1,786	1,766	1,787	r1,796	1,824
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,246	1,228	1,284	1,292	r1,295	1,259
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	21,580	21,241	21,543	r21,640	r21,773	21,707
Food and beverage.....do....	4,416	4,468	4,676	4,606	r4,604	4,641
Tobacco.....do....	1,785	1,726	1,905	1,854	r1,764	1,737
Textile.....do....	2,635	2,584	2,523	2,557	r2,576	2,518
Paper.....do....	1,435	1,413	1,492	1,497	r1,499	1,483
Chemical.....do....	3,776	3,708	3,745	3,730	r3,777	3,792
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,348	3,314	3,232	3,312	r3,349	3,376
Rubber.....do....	1,015	960	1,040	1,015	r1,013	1,031
Book value (adjusted), total.....do....	50,246	49,777	51,052	51,599	r52,138	52,228
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	28,528	28,311	29,361	29,734	r30,227	30,339
Primary metal.....do....	4,169	4,122	4,368	4,312	r4,201	4,118
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,844	2,814	3,175	3,278	r3,365	3,397
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	9,446	9,323	9,346	9,482	r9,725	9,845
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	6,595	6,584	7,031	7,167	r7,386	7,368
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,776	1,773	1,731	1,759	r1,764	1,799
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,234	1,228	1,235	1,254	r1,276	1,259
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	21,718	21,466	21,691	21,865	r21,911	21,889
Food and beverage.....do....	4,761	4,706	4,870	4,967	r4,928	4,862
Tobacco.....do....	1,859	1,836	1,868	1,873	r1,819	1,838
Textile.....do....	2,572	2,550	2,482	2,487	r2,532	2,490
Paper.....do....	1,435	1,413	1,463	1,482	r1,492	1,483
Chemical.....do....	3,747	3,722	3,696	3,730	r3,768	3,830
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,348	3,314	3,367	3,380	r3,366	3,343
Rubber.....do....	986	980	1,015	995	r1,013	1,074
Manufacturers' orders:						
New orders, net (unadjusted), total.....do....	26,359	25,239	30,994	30,281	r32,302	29,528
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,727	11,667	15,858	15,131	r16,936	14,578
Primary metal.....do....	1,872	1,768	2,671	2,551	r2,583	1,792
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,436	1,501	1,665	1,668	r1,775	1,829
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,958	3,601	4,679	4,590	r5,409	4,645
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,808	2,366	3,792	3,333	r4,039	3,307
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	13,632	13,572	15,136	15,150	r15,366	14,950
New orders, net (adjusted), total.....do....	25,785	26,450	31,206	30,541	r31,404	30,826
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,245	12,512	15,796	15,241	r16,133	15,589
Primary metal.....do....	1,932	2,044	2,826	2,479	r2,578	2,065
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,496	1,501	1,632	1,619	r1,811	1,829
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,592	3,770	4,632	4,626	r4,922	4,876
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,678	2,691	3,655	3,498	r3,841	3,721
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	13,540	13,938	15,410	15,300	r15,271	15,237
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted), total.....do....	46,353	46,747	50,485	50,093	r50,402	50,769
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	43,686	44,036	47,292	46,696	r46,979	47,345
Primary metal.....do....	3,558	3,694	6,086	5,626	r4,950	4,932
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,034	3,102	3,312	3,262	r3,210	3,263
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	16,084	16,230	16,854	16,929	r17,530	17,877
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	16,954	16,884	16,233	16,001	r16,366	16,208
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	2,667	2,711	3,193	3,397	r3,423	3,424
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rates, total.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	3.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	r4.4	p3.2
New hires.....do....	1.6	1.5	2.0	2.2	3.0	p2.3
Separation rates, total.....do....	2.9	3.2	3.0	2.9	r2.8	p3.0
Quits.....do....	.8	.9	1.1	1.3	1.3	p1.3
Layoffs.....do....	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.1	r1.0	p1.1
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Fabricated structural steel:						
Orders, new (net).....thous. of short tons..	287	331	295	242	291	259
Shipments.....do....	329	291	291	294	365	239
Backlog, end of month.....do....	2,191	2,220	1,922	1,768	1,717	1,679
Machine tools (metal-cutting and metal-forming):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	32.10	26.55	53.20	48.70	r65.40	p63.45
Domestic.....do....	24.30	21.95	46.90	45.55	r60.10	p53.40
Shipments, total.....do....	45.50	29.70	45.00	41.00	r50.05	p40.05
Domestic.....do....	38.90	24.50	38.25	36.30	r44.95	p36.55
Estimated backlog.....months..	2.5	2.7	3.9	3.9	4.1	p4.5
Pumps, steam, power, centrifugal and rotary:						
Orders, new.....thous. of dol..	5,467	5,088	6,702	7,049	7,258	.....
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	253.1	263.8	317.4	257.3	273.6	221.2
Washers, sales billed (domestic and export) 2/.....do....	288.8	277.3	274.4	277.9	341.9	318.1

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown. 2/ Excludes sales of combination washer-dryers; in July 1959, sales of such types amounted to 9,700 units.

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ITEM	1958		1959			
	July	August	May	June	July	August
COMMODITY PRICES						
Prices received and paid by farmers:						
Prices received, all farm products.....1910-14=100..	250	248	245	242	240	239
Crops.....do....	222	221	230	229	226	221
Commercial vegetables.....do....	192	176	254	213	215	214
Cotton.....do....	260	281	269	266	287	281
Feed grains and hay.....do....	163	160	163	163	161	159
Food grains.....do....	192	192	205	199	200	201
Fruit.....do....	274	265	223	223	206	211
Oil-bearing crops.....do....	228	230	230	228	222	214
Potatoes (including dry edible beans).....do....	163	136	217	297	232	164
Tobacco.....do....	474	478	508	509	503	504
Livestock and products.....do....	274	272	258	252	252	254
Dairy products.....do....	238	248	232	229	239	251
Meat animals.....do....	348	337	338	329	314	314
Poultry and eggs.....do....	167	165	126	124	139	139
Wool.....do....	211	211	240	241	248	249
Prices paid by farmers:						
All commodities and services.....do....	274	274	276	276	275	275
Family living items.....do....	287	287	288	288	289	288
Production items.....do....	265	264	268	267	266	266
All commod., services, int., taxes, and wage rates.do....	293	293	299	298	298	297
Parity ratio.....do....	85	85	82	81	81	80
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New construction (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	4,526	4,666	r4,711	r5,111	r5,212	5,284
Private, total.....do....	3,054	3,126	r3,292	r3,506	r3,586	3,592
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,648	1,710	r1,972	r2,078	r2,103	2,081
New dwelling units.....do....	1,207	1,276	r1,473	r1,570	r1,595	1,575
Additions and alterations.....do....	388	382	438	r443	r440	435
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	748	738	687	762	801	811
Industrial.....do....	178	171	154	161	167	175
Commercial.....do....	329	319	320	364	379	369
Farm construction.....do....	165	170	158	175	185	189
Public utility.....do....	473	491	460	r474	478	492
Public, total.....do....	1,472	1,540	r1,419	r1,605	r1,626	1,692
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	423	430	386	r407	r408	405
Military facilities.....do....	125	129	r137	r152	r159	150
Highway.....do....	572	611	505	r630	r660	730
New construction (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	4,030	4,042	r4,670	r4,662	r4,625	4,571
Private, total.....do....	2,771	2,789	r3,300	r3,270	r3,247	3,203
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,470	1,500	r1,981	r1,922	r1,882	1,829
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	718	703	716	742	764	772
Industrial.....do....	180	171	157	163	170	175
Commercial.....do....	307	300	334	344	351	347
Farm construction.....do....	130	131	143	146	146	145
Public utility.....do....	436	440	447	r446	439	440
Public, total.....do....	1,259	1,253	r1,370	r1,392	r1,378	1,368
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	394	389	383	r380	r381	366
Military facilities.....do....	112	109	r137	r133	134	127
Highway.....do....	432	438	472	r492	r500	529

r/ Revised. 1/ Except farm and public utility.

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